

Purpose

Under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act or CAPTA (Public Law 111-320), a referral of a child under the age of three who is involved in a substantiated case of abuse or neglect must be made to the early intervention program funded by Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). In Missouri, the Part C of IDEA is known as First Steps.

The Missouri Department of Social Services, Children's Division, requires staff refer to First Steps any child under age three who meets the criteria of CAPTA. This report provides information related to the number of First Steps infants referred through CAPTA in calendar year 2014.

Infants Enrolled in the First Steps Program

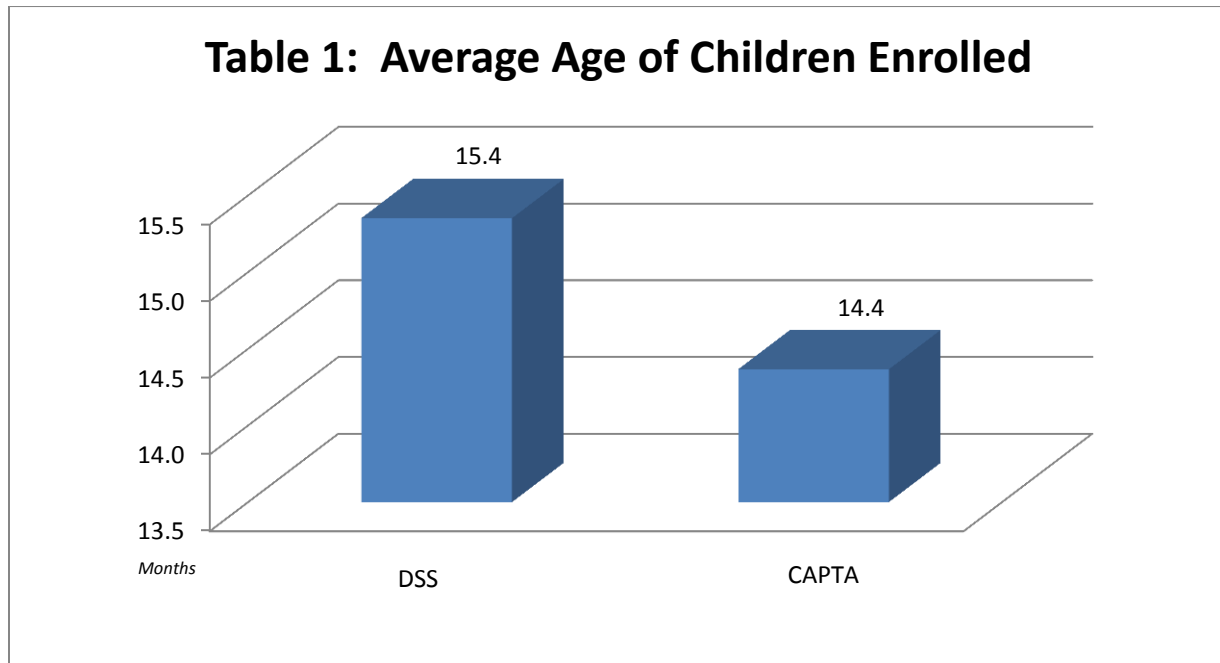
In calendar year 2014, Children's Division reported 867 children were eligible for referral to the First Steps program pursuant to CAPTA requirements. Of the 867 children eligible, 208 (23.99%) were referred to First Steps with a referral reason of CAPTA. Additionally, there were 864 children referred to First Steps with a referral reason of Department of Social Services (DSS).

Of the 208 children referred through CAPTA, 31 (14.9%) were found eligible and reached the status of an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). The remaining 177 children did not reach IFSP status due to the following reasons: 85 withdrawn by parent or guardian, 40 Part C ineligible, 38 unable to contact/locate, 7 refused by SPOE, and 7 inquiry only.

Of the 864 children referred by DSS, 168 (19.4%) were found eligible and reached the status of an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). The remaining 697 children did not reach IFSP status due to the following reasons: 277 Part C ineligible, 273 withdrawn by a parent or guardian, 83 unable to contact/locate, 46 inquiry only, and 18 refused by SPOE.

Average Age

Table 1 represents the average age at the time of enrollment in First Steps for the 208 children referred to First Steps for CAPTA, and the 864 children referred to First Steps by DSS. The average age for children enrolled in First Steps in 2014 was 14.4 months for CAPTA referrals and 15.4 months for DSS referrals.



Active Children by SPOE Region

Table 2 represents the 208 children referred to First Steps for CAPTA and their eligibility percentages by SPOE region. For a map of the SPOE regions, visit the First Steps website at: <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/first-steps>

Table 2: CAPTA Referrals and First Steps Status for Calendar Year 2014			
Region	Referred to FS	Reached IFSP	Percent of Referrals Served
Region 1 - Greater St. Louis	14	2	14.3%
Region 2 - St. Louis County	3	1	33.3%
Region 3 - Northeast	23	3	13.0%
Region 4 - Northwest Missouri	16	2	12.5%
Region 5 - Greater Kansas City	12	3	25.0%
Region 6 - Central Missouri	25	3	12.0%
Region 7 - Southwest Missouri	10	0	0.0%
Region 8 - South Central Missouri	59	13	22.0%
Region 9 - East Central Missouri	25	3	12.0%
Region 10 - Southeast Missouri	21	1	4.8%
Total	208	31	14.9%

Table 3 represents the 864 children referred to First Steps by DSS and their eligibility percentages by SPOE region. For a map of the SPOE regions, visit the First Steps website at: <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/first-steps>

Table 3: DSS Referrals and First Steps Status for Calendar Year 2014			
Region	Referred to FS	Reached IFSP	Percent of Referrals Served
Region 1 - Greater St. Louis	98	21	21.43%
Region 2 - St. Louis County	104	21	20.19%
Region 3 - Northeast	50	12	24.00%
Region 4 - Northwest Missouri	60	14	23.33%
Region 5 - Greater Kansas City	71	8	11.27%
Region 6 - Central Missouri	85	9	10.59%
Region 7 - Southwest Missouri	52	17	32.69%
Region 8 - South Central Missouri	155	42	27.10%
Region 9 - East Central Missouri	100	9	9.00%
Region 10 - Southeast Missouri	89	15	16.85%
Total	864	168	19.44%

Service Authorizations

Table 4 represents the First Steps service authorizations for the 31 children referred for CAPTA and received First Steps services. At the end of calendar year 2014, there were a total of 130 active authorizations for the 31 children referred for CAPTA.

Table 4: First Steps Authorizations for CAPTA		
Service Type	Authorization Count	Percent of Total
Special Instruction	30	23.08%
Physical Therapy	27	20.77%
EI Testing	26	20.00%
Speech Language Pathology	23	17.69%
Occupational Therapy	10	7.69%
Assistive Technology	6	4.62%
Dietary/Nutrition Services	3	2.31%
Social Work	3	2.31%
Audiology	2	1.54%
Grand Total	130	100%

Service Authorizations continued. . .

Table 5 represents the First Steps service authorizations for the 168 children referred by DSS and received First Steps services. At the end of calendar year 2014, there were a total of 786 active authorizations for the 168 children referred by DSS.

Table 5: First Steps Authorizations for DSS		
Service Type	Authorization Count	Percent of Total
Special Instruction	181	23.03%
EI Testing	145	18.45%
Physical Therapy	143	18.19%
Speech Language Pathology	130	16.54%
Occupational Therapy	92	11.70%
Assistive Technology	38	4.83%
Translation Services	16	2.04%
Audiology	14	1.78%
Dietary/Nutrition Services	9	1.15%
Social Work	6	0.76%
Applied Behavior Analysis	4	0.51%
Nursing Services	3	0.38%
Team Mtg – Eligibility	2	0.25%
Vision Services	2	0.25%
Sign/Cued Language Services	1	0.13%
Grand Total	786	100.00%

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